

Albany August 8th 1838

Dear Doctor

On my return to the City a few days since I found your letter ~~lying~~ on my table and am heartily rejoiced to hear that you are employed in a work of the kind mentioned, for I certainly do think that it will prove of the utmost importance to the votaries of science, particularly to such as are devoted to Botany. I have shown the prospectus to several of those ^{best} and they unanimously ~~concur~~ coincide with me on the subject. Friend Bloodgood is at present from home with his family; on his return I shall take the earliest opportunity of seeing him on the subject. For Academies also and Seminaries are for the present closed in consequence of their vacations.

(I think the best plan that you can pursue is to forward a few Copies of the present number (say two to each) to some of our Booksellers accompanied by a subscription list attached to the prospectus. O. Steele, W. C. Little & by all means to E. W. & C. Skinner, and I will do every thing in my power to favour your views, particularly in Newspaper articles &c

I sincerely rejoice that Gray has received the appointment you mentioned, for he richly deserves it, you and a much better one to boot.

And now he so kind as to give me some information respecting the Corps of the Expedition, for I have no means at this place of obtaining any ~~information~~ that can be relied upon further, than what I ~~see~~ occasionally see in print. I of course am one of the defunct, having received no orders since last fall. Who are going & what are their respective departments? and more

particularly, is J. N. Reynolds one of them? How
are those that remain behind to proceed not having
received any notification from Government on the
subject? is such a thing as a notice to be expected?
And lastly, if there is such a thing as a remun-
eration for them, what is it & how to be obtained.
Now Dear Sir your friendly advice on those last
questions will be most gratefully received by

Yr. Profet

John Torrey M.D.
New York.

Yours

Very Respectfully
James Light.

Nath. Pearl St. Albany.



(Sample)

20

To Joseph John Jones, M.D.
New York City
New York